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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

[ISSUED MAY 7TH, 1868.]

SESSION 1867-8.

Fourth Meeting, January 13, 1868.

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART., K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in
the Chair.

PRESENTATION.—*A. M. Bethune, Esq.*

ELECTIONS.—*A. L. Elder, Esq.*; *J. A. B. Horton, Esq., M.D., &c.*; *Robert Jardine, Esq., B.A.*; *Eugene Morris, Esq.*; *M. C. Morrison, Esq.*; *Augustus H. Mounsey, Esq.* (H.M. Legation, Teheran); *George Macnair, Esq.*; *John F. Pownall, Esq.* (Magistrate for County of Middlesex); *John Pender, Esq.*; *J. B. Redman, Esq., C.E.*; *H. P. Stephenson, Esq., M.I.C.E.*; *Dr. Thomas Staley* (Bishop of Honolulu); *Thomas Osborne Stock, Esq., M.P.*; *Henry A. Tilley, Esq.*; *Major George H. Waller*; *Robert Watson, Esq.*; *Edward B. Webb, Esq., C.E., &c.*

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY FROM DECEMBER 5TH, 1867, TO JANUARY 13TH, 1868.—‘The Middle Kingdom: a Survey of Geography, Government, &c., of the Chinese Empire,’ 2 vols., by J. Wells Williams. Presented by Dr. Lockhart. ‘Climate and Meteorology of the West Coast of Africa,’ by J. A. B. Horton, M.D. Presented by the Author. ‘Coal Deposits, New Zealand,’ by James Hector. Presented by the Author. ‘Aus dem Orient—Nil, Sinai-Halbinsel und in Syrien,’ by Dr. Oscar Fraas. Presented by the Author. ‘The Sailor’s Word-Book, a Digest of Nautical Terms,’ by Admiral Sir E. Belcher, K.C.B. Purchased. ‘South Australia: North Territory Exploration.’ Presented by F. T. Dutton, Esq. ‘Voyage aux Provinces Brésiliennes de l’Amazonie en 1860-61.’ Presented by Sir Woodbine Parish. ‘Asowschen Meeres,’ von G. V. Helmersen. ‘New Zealand; its Physical Geography, &c.,’ by Dr. F. Hochstetter. Stuttgart, 1867. Presented by the Author. ‘Jamaica in

1866; a Narrative of a Tour through the Island,' by T. Harvey and W. Brewin. Presented by the Authors. 'The Adventures of my Grandfather,' by J. L. Peyton, Esq., 1867. Presented by Colonel Peyton. 'Etudes sur les Affinités Chimiques,' par C. M. Guldberg et P. Waage. Presented by the Christiania University. 'Bulletin de l'Académie d'Hippone, Soc. de Recherches Scientifiques et d'Acclimatation,' Bone, 1866. 'International Company of the Columbian Canal.' Presented. Dr. L. G. Blanc's 'Handbuch, Geschichte der Erde und ihrer Bewohner,' Auflage von Dr. H. Lange. 4 parts. Presented by Dr. Lange. 'On the Nature and Discoloration of the Arctic Seas,' by R. Brown, Esq. Presented by the Author. 'School Geography,' by James Clyde, 10th edition, 1866. Purchased. 'Le Pilote du Golfe Persique.' 'Pilote du Golfe d'Aden.' 'Annales Hydrographiques,' to date. 'Catalogue des Cartes.' 'Routier de l'Australie, Côtes N., N.O., et Ouest,' par Charles Yule, R.N., traduit par Besson. 'Renseignements Nautiques sur quelques Ports de l'Océanie, de la Nouvelle Hollande et de la Mer Rouge,' par R. Foy, 1866. 'Routier du Golfe du Mexique en France,' par M. B. F. Gasset. 'Routier des Côtes sud d'Afrique, du Cap de Bonne-espérance, au Cap Gardafui,' par A. F. B. de Horsey, M.R.A. 'Routier de l'Île Jersey par J. Richards, R.N.,' par Jules Vavin, 1866. 'Considérations général sur la Mer Méditerranée; Résumé des Vents, Courants et Routes de cette Mer,' par A. Le Gras, 1866. 'Mer de Chine,' par M. A. Le Gras. 'La Nouvelle Calédonie.' 'Le Côté Ouest de la Corée.' All presented by the Minister of the French Marine. 'Euphrates Railway, Papers relating to.' Presented by Mr. Andrews. 'Meteorological Observations, Sydney,' by G. R. Smalley, Esq. Presented by the Sydney Observatory.

ACCESSIONS TO THE MAP-ROOM SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF DECEMBER 9TH, 1867.—Ethnological Map of Russia in Europe, on 2 sheets. Presented by Sir R. I. Murchison. Three small Maps of Australia, showing the routes of Warburton, Walker, and McIntyre, by Dr. A. Petermann. Five Maps of Abyssinia, by Antoine d'Abbadie. Presented by W. D. Cooley, Esq. Four Maps of Queensland, showing the proposed routes of the Electric Telegraph, by Messrs. Walker and Young. Two sheets of the Topographical Map of Sweden. Presented by Major-General J. A. Hazellius, Chief of the Topographical Corps of Sweden. Map of North-Western America, showing the territory ceded by Russia to the United States, by B. Peirce. Presented by the United States' Naval Department. Atlas to Fay's Great Outline of Geography. Karte von Ost-Sudan, showing the route of Carl Graf Krockow von Wickerode.

Map of the German Colony in the Brazilian Province of Rio Grande do Sul. Presented by Bruno Hassenstein, Esq.

The PRESIDENT stated that before proceeding with the business of the evening he had to announce that he had that morning received a letter from Dr. Kirk, respecting Dr. Livingstone, which he would read :—

“DEAR SIR RODERICK,

“Zanzibar, 29th October, 1867.

“I write now only to assure you that nothing further has reached us regarding the traveller in the Lake Regions, who must without doubt be Livingstone, since we have news of him from Quiloo as having been seen west of Nyassa, where gold is found.

“Bunduki, the native to whom the letters were given, has not yet reached the coast, being delayed, as we hear, by carrying ivory in double journeys from village to village; and he is still too far off to make it of any use sending men to receive the letters which he has in his possession. We must bear patiently these African delays, and live on the hope which these rumours encourage.

“It will be some time before we can write to Johanna; but I hope that Moosa and his companions may be well watched, and, when the time comes, severely punished for the misery they have caused. They, however, press their claims for salary, and have even sent men here in the hope of getting their wages paid.

“Mr. Brenner goes in the same vessel with me to Lamoo. I go on a short leave, the first I have had since I came out. He goes to explore the Dana River, which opens into Formosa Bay. My next letter, I hope, may be accompanied by those of Dr. Livingstone.

“JOHN KIRK.”

The following papers were read :—

1.—*Explorations in the Isthmus of Darien.* By M. LUCIEN DE PUYDT.

IN this Memoir M. de Puydt communicated the scientific results of two explorations which he made of the Isthmus of Darien in the years 1861 and 1865, having for object the discovery of a practicable line for a ship-canal to connect the two oceans. His researches in the first expedition were directed towards the line proposed some seventeen years ago by Dr. Cullen between the Gulf of St. Miguel and Caledonia Bay, which had been insufficiently explored by the international expedition sent out about that time. The result of this first journey was to confirm the conclusion arrived at by Mr. Gisborne, namely, that no practicable line exists for an inter-oceanic canal in this direction. A journey was afterwards undertaken up the River Tuyra, as far as Paya. M. de Puydt thereupon returned to France, and in 1864 he was charged by the French Government to organise another party for the purpose of examining thoroughly the low range of the Andes about 60 miles to the south of the line above mentioned, where the River Tanela discharges itself into the Atlantic, near the northern arms of the River Atrato. The expedition was formed in New Granada, and, after a toilsome